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Marke Nedsmak Dam (NDI ID PA 2003),
DER ID 59-66, SCS ID PA 601),
SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN,
MORRIS BRANCH, MARSH CREEK, TIOGA COUNTY,

PENNSYLVANIA PIACE I Inspection

LAKE NESSMUK DAM

NDI ID No. PA-00032 DER ID No. 59-66 SCS ID No. PA-601

PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

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PHASE I INSEPCTION REPORT

NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM

15) DACW31-79-C-0015

Prepared by

GANNETT FLEMING CORDDRY AND CARPENTER, INC.
Consulting Engineers
P.O. Box 1963
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For

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Baltimore District, Corps of Engineers
Baltimore, Maryland 21203

AUGUST 1979

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PREFACE

This report is prepared under guidance contained in the Recommended Guidelines for Safety Inspection of Dams, for Phase I Investigations. Copies of these guidelines may be obtained from the Office of Chief of Engineers, Washington, D.C. 20314. The purpose of a Phase I investigation is to identify expeditiously those dams which may pose hazards to human life or property. The assessment of the general condition of the dam is based upon available data and visual inspections. Detailed investigation, and analyses involving topographic mapping, subsurface investigations, testing, and detailed computational evaluations are beyond the scope of a Phase I investigation; however, the investigation is intended to identify any need for such studies.

In reviewing this report, it should be realized that the reported condition of the dam is based on observations of field conditions at the time of inspection along with data available to the inspection team. In cases where the reservoir was lowered or drained prior to inspection, such action, while improving the stability and safety of the dam, removes the normal load on the structure and may obscure certain conditions which might otherwise be detectable if inspected under the normal operating environment of the structure.

It is important to note that the condition of a dam depends on numerous and constantly changing internal and external conditions, and is evolutionary in nature. It would be incorrect to assume that the present condition of the dam will continue to represent the condition of the dam at some point in the future. Only through frequent inspections can unsafe conditions be detected and only through continued care and maintenance can these conditions be prevented or corrected.

Phase I inspections are not intended to provide detailed hydrologic and hydraulic analyses. In accordance with the established Guide-lines, the spillway design flood is based on the estimated "Probable Maximum Flood" for the region (greatest reasonably possible storm runoff), or fractions thereof. The spillway design flood provides a measure of relative spillway capacity and serves as an aid in determining the need for more detailed hydrologic and hydraulic studies, considering the size of the dam, its general condition and the downstream damage potential.

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN

MORRIS BRANCH, MARSH CREEK, TIOGA COUNTY

PENNSYLVANIA

LAKE NESSMUK DAM

NDI ID No. PA-00032 DER ID No. 59-66 SCS ID No. PA-601

PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT
NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM

AUGUST 1979

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PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM

BRIEF ASSESSMENT OF GENERAL CONDITION

AND

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Name of Dam: Lake Nessmuk

NDI ID No. PA-00032/DER ID NO. 59-66

SCS ID NO. PA-601

Owner: Pennsylvania Fish Commission

State Located: Pennsylvania

County Located: Tioga

Morris Branch, Marsh Creek Stream:

Date of Inspection: (25 July 1979)

Gannett Fleming Corddry and Inspection Team:

Carpenter, Inc. Consulting Engineers P.O. Box 1963

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105

Based on visual inspection, available records, calculations and past operational performance, Lake Nessmuk Dam is judged to be in good condition. The existing spillway can pass the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) without overtopping of the dam. The spillway capacity is rated as adequate.

There is a slope stability analysis for the embankment, and it indicates that the embankment has adequate factors of safety. There is no evidence of problems threatening the embankment.

The visual inspection revealed that it is uncertain that the gate is operational.

The following measure is recommended to be undertaken by the Owner without delay:

(1) Either repair the outlet works gate or adopt an operating policy such that the gate is maintained annually and operated every other year to ensure its operation in case of emergency. The gate should be operated as soon as possible.

In addition, it is recommended that the Owner modify his operational procedures as follows:

- (1) Develop a detailed emergency operation and warning system for Lake Nessmuk Dam.
- (2) When warnings of a storm of major proportions are given by the National Weather Service, the vner should activate his emergency operation and warning ystem procedures.

Submitted by:

GANNETT FLEMING CORDDRY AND CARPENTER, INC.

FREDERICK FUTCHKO

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Date: 17 September 1979

Approved by:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY BALTIMORE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Project Manager, Dam Section

JAMES W. PECK

colonel, Corps of Engineers District Engineer

Date: 25 Sep 79





SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN

MORRIS BRANCH, MARSH CREEK, TIOGA COUNTY

PENNSYLVANIA

LAKE NESSMUK DAM

NDI ID No. PA-00032
DER ID No. 59-66
SCS ID No. PA-601
PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT
NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM

SECTION 1

PROJECT INFORMATION

1.1 General.

- a. Authority. The Dam Inspection Act, Public Law 92-367, authorized the Secretary of the Army, through the Corps of Engineers, to initiate a program of inspection of dams throughout the United States.
- b. <u>Purpose</u>. The purpose of the inspection is to determine if the dam constitutes a hazard to human life or property.

1.2 Description of Project.

a. Dam and Appurtenances. Lake Nessmuk Dam consists of a zoned, earthfill embankment that is 870 feet long and is 50 feet high at maximum section. The main spillway is a drop spillway located near the center of the embankment. It consists of a concrete riser that

connects to a 30-inch diameter reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) under the embankment. The top of the riser is 9.3 feet below the design top of dam elevation. A trashrack is provided at the riser. The outlet works is located at the main spillway. It consists of an 18-inch diameter RCP extending upstream from the main spillway riser. An 18-inch sluice gate is provided at the downstream end of the pipe, which outlets into the bottom of the riser.

The auxiliary spillway is at the left abutment of the dam. It is a grass-lined excavation in earth. At the control section, the auxiliary spillway has an earthen crest that is 150 feet long and 5.2 feet below the design top elevation of the dam and 4.1 feet above the top of the main spillway riser. The various features of the dam are shown on the Plates at the end of the report and on the Photographs in Appendix D.

- b. Location. The dam is located on the Morris Branch of Marsh Creek, approximately 1.0 mile South of Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. Lake Nessmuk Dam is shown on the 1971 photorevision to USGS Quadrangle, Antrim, Pennsylvania, with coordinates N41044'00" -W77017'35", in Tioga County, Pennsylvania. The location map is shown on Plate 1.
- c. Size Classification. Intermediate (50 feet high, 1,042 acre-feet).
- d. <u>Hazard Classification</u>. High hazard. Downstream conditions indicate that a high hazard classification is warranted for Lake Nessmuk Dam (Paragraph 5.1c).
- e. Ownership. Pennsylvania Fish Commission, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.
- f. Purpose of Dam. Recreation and flood control.
- g. Design and Construction History. Lake Nessmuk Dam was planned under an agreement between the Pennsylvania Fish Commission (Owner), the Soil Conservation Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (SCS), the Tioga County Commissioners(TCC) and the Borough of Wellsboro (Borough). Under this agreement, the Owner acquired title to the land, the SCS designed the dam, the TCC supervised construction, and

the Borough maintains the dam and surrounding park. Construction funding was shared between the various agencies involved. The dam was designed between 1964 and 1965 by the SCS. The permit to construct the dam was issued in 1965, and the construction was started in 1967. The Contractor was Roger Gerhart, of Lititz, Pennsylvania. Construction was supervised by Raymond P. Tipple, Contracting Officer for the TCC; Floyd Graham, Jerome Ogden, and Harold Kemmerer, Resident Inspectors for the SCS; and Frederick Schuerz, Chief Inspector for the SCS. The dam was completed in 1968.

h. Normal Operational Procedure. The reservoir is normally maintained at the main spillway crest level. The outlet works gate is normally closed.

1.3 Pertinent Data.

a.	Drainage Area. (square miles)	1.63
b.	Discharge at Damsite. (cfs) Maximum known flood at damsite (June 1972)	100
	Outlet works at normal pool elevation	46
	Spillway capacity.	
	Main spillway with pool at auxiliary spillway crest	133
	Auxiliary spillway with pool at top of dam	4,900
c.	Elevation. (feet above msl) Top of dam Maximum pool Normal pool (main spillway crest) Upstream invert outlet works Downstream invert outlet works Streambed at toe of dam	1470.2 1470.2 1460.9 1426.0 1425.5 1420.5
d.	Reservoir Length. (miles) Normal pool Maximum pool	0.52 0.57

e.	Storage. (acre-feet) Normal pool Maximum pool	782 1,042
f.	Reservoir Surface (acres) Normal Pool Maximum pool	59.5 70.0
g.	Dam. Type	Zoned Earthfill
	Length (feet)	870
	Height (feet)	50
	Topwidth (feet)	17
	Side Slopes Upstream	1V on 3H. There is a 10-foot berm at El. 1461.9
	Downstream	1V on 2.5H There is a 10-foot berm at El. 1444.0
	Zoning	Impervious core to within 8.2 feet of top of dam. A zone of less impervious fill is upstream and

6

g. Dam. (continued)

downstream around core. A foundation drain is provided near the toe.

Cutoff

Impervious fill in cutoff trench.

Grout Curtain

None

h. Diversion and Regulating Tunnel

None

i. Spillways.

Main (Principal or Service)

Spillway

Drop Spillway

Type

Vertical rectangular riser 5.5 feet by 6 feet with rounded crest. A wall extends along the downstream side of the riser and a trashrack is provided along the three sides of the crest. The riser connects to a conduit.

i. Spillways. (continued)

Length	of	Weir	(feet)			
Riser				Two	at	5
				One	at.	5.5

Crest Elevation
Top of riser 1460.9

Upstream Channel Reservoir.

<u>Type</u> Reinforced concrete

pipe, 2.5 feet in diameter, on concrete cradle.

Length (feet) 167.3

Elevation Upstream invert

at riser 1425.0 Downstream invert 1420.5

Downstream Channel Impact basin at natural stream.

Auxiliary (Emergency) Spillway
Type

Grass-lined earthen cut with 1V on 3H side slopes.

Length of Weir (feet)

150 at
earthen
control
section

Crest Elevation 1465.0

i. Spillways. (continued)

4

Upstream Channel

Grass-lined channel to reservoir.

Downstream Channel

Grass-lined channel extending to overbank.

j. Regulating Outlets. Type

Reinforced concrete pipe, 18-inch diameter, extending to main spillway riser.

Length (feet).

96

Closure

18-inch, unseating head, sluice gate in riser at downstream end of 18-inch diameter pipe.

Access

Operator on trashrack at main spillway riser.

ENGINEERING DATA

2.1 Design.

- a. <u>Data Available</u>. Almost complete design data are available. A summary of the available data is in Appendix A and Appendix C.
- b. Design Features. The dam and appurtenances are described in Paragraph 1.2a. The design features are shown on the Plates at the end of the report and on the Photographs in Appendix D. The embankment is shown on Plates 2, 3, 4, and 5, and on Photographs A and B. A plan of the subdrainage system is shown on Plate 5. The cut-off trench is shown on Plate 7. The soils at the site are susceptible to piping, as noted in Appendix E. The SCS incorporated special features, such as two-stage filters, to reduce the piping potential.

The main spillway is shown on Plates 6 and 8 and on Photograph C. The impact basin is shown on Plate 6 and Photograph D. The auxiliary spillway is shown on Plates 2 and 3 and on Photographs E and F.

c. <u>Design Considerations</u>. Although the main spillway design has been used successfully by the SCS for many years, it appears that the entrance to the conduit could possibly develop cavitation during certain flow conditions. Other design considerations are discussed in Sections 5 and 6.

2.2 Construction.

a. <u>Data Available</u>. Construction data available consist of the construction specifications, construction photographs, and reports both from the resident inspector and from the periodic construction inspections by the Commonwealth. The only adverse item noted in these reports was some cracks, believed to be surface cracks, on the embankment. An inspector from the Commonwealth noted that seeding would probably eliminate them.

- b. Construction Considerations. The available information indicates that the dam is well constructed.
- 2.3 Operation. There are no formal records of operation. Based on information from the Owner and the SCS, all structures have performed satisfactorily, except for the outlet works gate, as noted hereafter.

2.4 Evaluation.

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- a. Availability. Engineering data were provided by the Bureau of Dams and Waterway Management, Department of Environmental Resources, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (PennDER), and by the SCS. For information during the visual inspection, the SCS made available the District Conservationist, a Civil Engineer, and a Technician, and the Borough made available the Director of Parks and Recreation and maintenance personnel. The Owner made available all his pertinent information. For additional information, he also provided a Senior Project Engineer and the State Maintenance Supervisor. The SCS also researched their files for additional information upon request of the inspection team.
- b. Adequacy. The type and amount of design data and other engineering data are good. The assessment is based on the combination of design data, visual inspection, and performance history.
- c. Validity. There is no reason to question the validity of the available data.

VISUAL INSPECTION

3.1 Findings

- a. General. The overall appearance of the dam is good with a few deficiencies as noted herein. The locations of deficiencies are shown in Appendix B on Plate B-1. Survey data acquired during this inspection are presented in Appendix B. On the day of the inspection, the pool was at spillway crest.
- b. Embankment. The embankment is in good condition. The downstream slope is covered with thick 2 to 3-foot high crownvetch. The upstream slope is protected by riprap to about 2.8 feet above the main spillway crest. The remainder of the embankment is covered with grass. A few small areas are almost bare. They are probably the result of being mowed too closely. The gradation of the riprap is somewhat uneven. The survey performed for this inspection revealed that the top of the embankment is above its design elevation and that the lines and grades are essentially in accordance with the design drawings. No seepage was observed on or downstream from the embankment.
- c. Appurtenant Structures. The main spillway riser is in good condition with no observed deficiencies. The main spillway conduit is in good condition. The junction of the riser and the conduit is in good condition. At the conduit joints, each edge facing upstream has minor spalling. As shown on Plate 6, Joints J-10 and J-11 are separated about 3/4 to 1 inch. Joint J-4 is separated about 1-1/4 inches. At the junction of the conduit and the impact basin, the caulking in the joint is slightly deteriorated. The impact basin is in good condition with no observed deficiencies. There is a minor amount of brush on the stream banks downstream of the impact basin. The outfall of the foundation drain at the left side of the impact basin was discharging at a rate of 0.5 gpm. The right outfall was trickling.

The auxiliary spillway is in good condition. The grass cover is in good condition. At the right bank, a dike extends downstream from the axis of the dam to train water away from the toe of the embankment. The dike is protected by riprap. The riprap is in good condition with only one small shrub growing in the riprap. The survey performed for the inspection revealed that the crest of the auxiliary spillway is 0.1 to 0.3 foot above its design grade except for 3 feet at the left side, where it is up to 1.3 feet above its design grade.

The outlet works gate is in fair condition. The SCS Representative stated that it had not been operated since the dam was completed. He offered to operate the gate. He stated that he was confident that the gate was operational but that, if it were to be raised and then lowered, the gate would leak severely until the wedges were reset. Resetting the wedges is beyond the capabilities of the maintenance personnel. The Owner and the SCS Representative were concerned that the pool could not be maintained with a leaking gate. The inspection team did not insist on viewing its operation.

- d. Reservoir Area. The reservoir has generally gentle grassed slopes. The watershed is mostly wooded, rolling hills with some farm fields. There is minor rural development in the watershed, especially near the reservoir.
- e. <u>Downstream Channel</u>. The stream extends for 1.0 mile to Wellsboro and then beyond to its confluence with Marsh Creek. In Wellsboro alone there are at least 50 dwellings and the commercial district in the floodplain. The access road to the dam is a public road extending parallel to the reservoir along the right bank.

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

- 4.1 Procedure. The reservoir is maintained at the main spillway crest, Elevation 1460.9, with excess inflow discharging over the spillway and into Morris Branch of Marsh Creek. An 18-inch diameter pipe discharges water from the reservoir. Since the outlet works pipe is intended only for drawing down the reservoir, the gate on the Lake Nessmuk Dam water discharge line is usually closed.
- 4.2 Maintenance of Dam. The dam is visited weekly during the winter and daily during other seasons by a caretaker who observes the condition of the dam. The caretaker is responsible for reporting any changes or deficiencies to the SCS. The Borough, with the assistance of the SCS, makes a formal inspection of the dam each year, and the records are filed. Maintenance deficiencies are corrected shortly after the inspection. Informal inspections are also made when the SCS representative is on the site for other reasons. Mowing and brush cutting on the embankment are accomplished frequently.
- 4.3 Maintenance of Operating Facilities. The gate on the outlet works pipe is not operated annually because of the problem noted in Section 3. Although it is usual SCS procedure to operate gates annually, the gate is not operated because of the expense of resetting the wedges.
- 4.4 Warning Systems in Effect. The SCS Representative and the caretaker stated that there was no formal emergency operation and warning plan. The Owner has developed a preliminary downstream warning plan. The dam is monitored continuously by a member of the Local Fire Company during periods of heavy precipitation. Contact is maintained during these periods with the Local Civil Defense Organization. The Borough follows this policy for all nearby dams.
- 4.5 Evaluation of Operational Adequacy. Maintenance of the dam is good. The operational adequacy of the gate is uncertain. The procedures used to inspect the dam are good, as is the correction of maintenance deficiencies. The Owner is aware of the need for a formal emergency operation and warning system, as he has developed them for other dams belonging to the Fish Commission.

HYDROLOGY AND HYDRAULICS

5.1 Evaluation of Features.

- a. Design Data. The hydrology and hydraulics of the design of the dam were based on standard SCS criteria. The elevation of the main spillway crest was determined by sedimentation and recreation requirements. The crest of the auxiliary spillway was set by routing the 100-year 1-hour storm. The design high water was determined by routing a storm equal to 1.25 times the 100-year 6-hour storm. The routing of this storm was not used for sizing any of the structures. The top of dam elevation and auxiliary spillway size were determined by routing the "Freeboard" storm, which is equal to twice the design high water storm (2.5 times the 100-year, 6-hour storm). The "Freeboard" storm is discussed in Paragraph 5.1d.
- b. Experience Data. The maximum known flood ate the damsite occurred during Tropical Storm Agnes in June, 1972, when water was 8 inches below the auxiliary spillway crest. Using the design discharge ratings, the outflow is estimated at 100 cfs.

c. Visual Observations.

- (1) General. The visual inspection of Lake Nessmuk Dam, which is described in Section 3, resulted in a number of observations relevant to hydrology and hydraulics. These observations are evaluated herein for the various features.
- (2) Embankment. Terminating the riprap below the top of the dam is not a universally used design criteria, but it is a standard SCS design criteria. Any potential erosion hazard is considered to be offset by the good maintenance at the dam. Any erosion on the upper parts of the embankment would be detected and repaired immediately after it occurred. This would make the erosion hazard negligible.

- (3) Appurtenant Structures. The gate for the outlet works is located upstream of the impervious core and is sufficiently far upstream to be considered an upstream closure facility. It appears that at least part of the auxiliary spillway crest is slightly above the design elevation. As the flood routing for the "Freeboard" storm was accomplished using the design top elevation of the embankment and since the embankment is above the design elevation, the existing auxiliary spillway capacity is not significantly reduced from the design condition. The brush downstream of the impact basin is not thick enough to significantly raise tailwater. The maintenance personnel indicated that the brush was scheduled to be cut.
- (4) Reservoir Area. No conditions were observed in the reservoir area or watershed that might present significant hazard to the dam. The assessment of the dam is based on existing conditions, and the effects of future development are not considered.
- (5) Downstream Conditions. No conditions were observed immediately downstream from the dam that would create significant hazard to the dam. If the dam were to fail, a hazard to dwellings both in Wellsboro and further downstream would exist. Because of the possibility of flooding dwellings, a high hazard classification is warranted for Lake Nessmuk Dam. The SCS designed the dam assuming that it was a Class C structure. This is essentially equivalent to a high hazard classification. The Owner stated that he considered the dam to be high hazard, with "too many structures to count" in the floodplain. Access to Lake Nessmuk Dam is excellent.

d. Overtopping Potential.

- (1) Spillway Design Flood. According to the criteria established by the Office of the Chief of Engineers (OCE) for the size (Intermediate) and hazard potential (High) of Lake Nessmuk Dam, the Spillway Design Flood (SDF) is the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF).
- (2) Design Storm. The SCS "Freeboard" storm, which was used to determine the size of the auxiliary spillway and the top elevation of the dam, was not developed from PMF methods. However, the total rainfall of 20.8 inches is equivalent to a PMF rainfall for this

- area. The assumed losses of 3.4 inches are slightly higher than those established by criteria for the Susquehanna Basin. The unit hydrograph used by the SCS is conservative. The computed peak inflow of 7,355 cfs is equivalent to a PMF peak inflow. The storm is an acceptable estimate of the PMF.
- (3) Design Storm Routing. The design storm routing computations are in Appendix C. It should be noted that the SCS assumed the main spillway to be functional up to the top elevation of the dam. As there is a potential of debris blocking the trashrack, it is uncertain that the main spillway could discharge at this capacity. However, the main spillway capacity is minimal when compared to the auxiliary spillway capacity, and any reduction would have a negligible effect on the PMF routing.
- (4) Spillway Adequacy. The criteria used to rate the spillway adequacy of a dam are described in Appendix C. Since Lake Nessmuk Dam can pass the PMF, the spillway capacity is rated as adequate.

STRUCTURAL STABILITY

6.1 Evaluation of Structural Stability.

a. Visual Observations.

- (1) General. The visual inspection of Lake Nessmuk Dam, which is described in Section 3, resulted in a number of observations relevant to structural stability. These observations are evaluated herein for various features.
- (2) Embankment. None of the observations noted in Section 3 are sufficiently serious to be considered a deficiency. The flow from the foundation drain outfalls is not considered a deficiency as it is minimal and indicates that the drains are functioning properly and that the impervious core and impervious cutoff are effective.
- (3) Appurtenant Structures. There are no deficiencies at the main spillway riser. The spalling in the conduit is sufficiently minor that it is of no concern. A review of the data in the SCS files indicates that the as-built conduit can withstand a joint separation of at least 3 inches. The observed joint separations are therefore of no concern. The potential leaks from the outlet works gate are not a hazard to the dam, but the leaks could adversely affect normal operation. In view of the expense of replacing the gate, operating the gate at a reduced schedule appears to be warranted. When the gate is operated, and if it is opened sufficiently to slightly lower the pool, an opportunity is provided to inspect the conduit after the gate is closed.
- b. Design and Construction Data. A stability analysis for the embankment was performed by the SCS during design. The stability analysis resulted in a minimum factor of safety of 1.45 on the upstream slope for the sudden drawdown condition and 1.50 on the downstream slope for the steady seepage condition. The design shear strength was determined from a triaxial

test of the consolidated-undrained condition. These factors of safety are considered to be adequate. A summary is included in Appendix A. After the analysis was completed, the downstream slope was flattened to 1V on 2.5H because it was felt that the soil conditions at the site might raise the phreatic surface in the embankment. A flattened slope improves the embankment stability.

- c. Operating Records. There are no formal records of operation. There is no record of stability problems having occurred over the operational history of the dam.
- d. <u>Postconstruction Changes</u>. There have been no postconstruction changes to Lake Nessmuk Dam.
- e. Seismic Stability. Lake Nessmuk Dam is located in Seismic Zone 1. Normally it can be considered that if a dam in this zone has adequate factors of safety under static loading conditions, it can be assumed safe for any expected earthquake loading. Since the factors of safety are adequate, the dam is assumed to be stable for any expected earthquake loading.

ASSESSMENT, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND

PROPOSED REMEDIAL MEASURES

7.1 Dam Assessment.

a. Safety.

- (1) Based on visual inspection, available records, calculations, and past operational performance, Lake Nessmuk Dam is judged to be in good condition. The spillway can pass the PMF without overtopping of the dam. The spillway capacity is rated as adequate.
- (2) There is a stability analysis for the embankment, and it indicates that the embankment has adequate factors of safety. There is no evidence of problems threatening the embankment.
- (3) The visual inspection revealed only one deficiency, which was the uncertain operational adequacy of the gate on the outlet works.
- b. Adequacy of Information. The information available is such that an assessment of the condition of the dam can be inferred from the combination of visual inspection, past performance, and computations performed prior to and as part of this study.
- c. Urgency. The recommendations in Paragraph 7.2 should be implemented without delay.
- d. Necessity for Further Investigations.
 Accomplishment of the remedial measures outlined in Paragraph 7.2, will not require further investigations by the Owner.

7.2 Recommendations and Remedial Measures.

- a. The following measure is recommended to be undertaken by the Owner without delay:
- (1) Either repair the outlet works gate or adopt an operating policy such that the gate is maintained annually and operated every other year to ensure its operation in case of emergency. The gate should be operated as soon as possible.

- b. In addition, it is recommended that the Owner modify his operational procedures as follows:
- (1) Develop a detailed emergency operation and warning system for Lake Nessmuk Dam.
- (2) When warnings of a storm of major proportions are given by the National Weather Service, the Owner should activate his emergency operation and warning system procedures.

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN MORRIS BRANCH MARSH CREEK, TIOGA COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

LAKE NESSMUK DAM

NDI ID No. PA-00032 DER ID No. 59-66 SCS ID No. PA-601

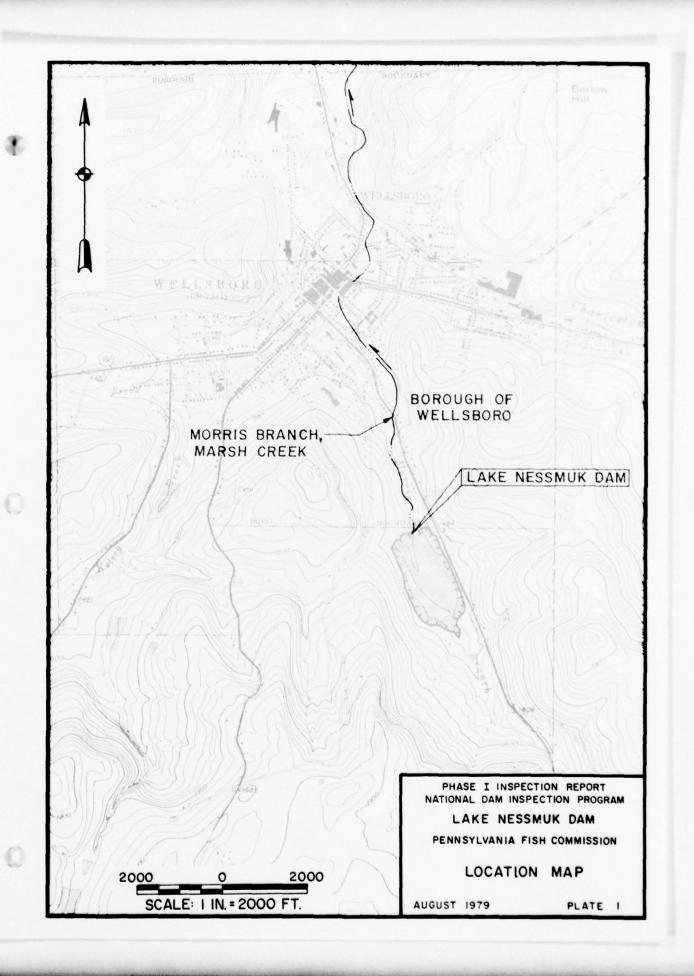
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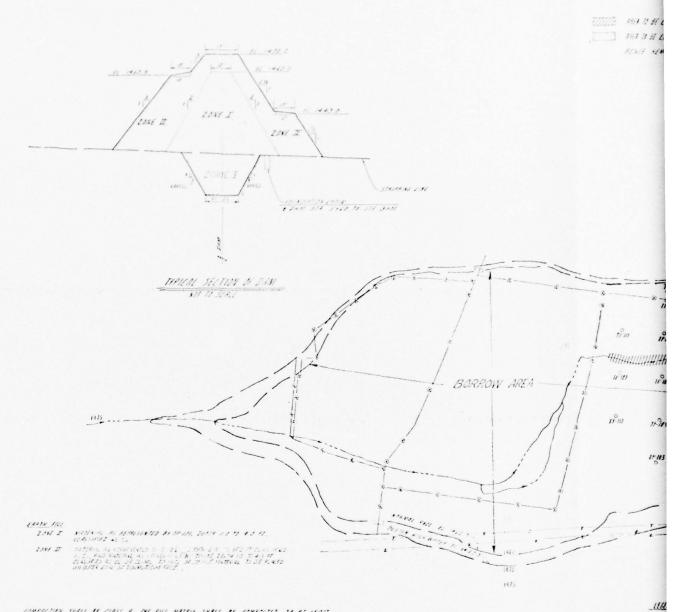
PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT

NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM

AUGUST 1979

PLATES





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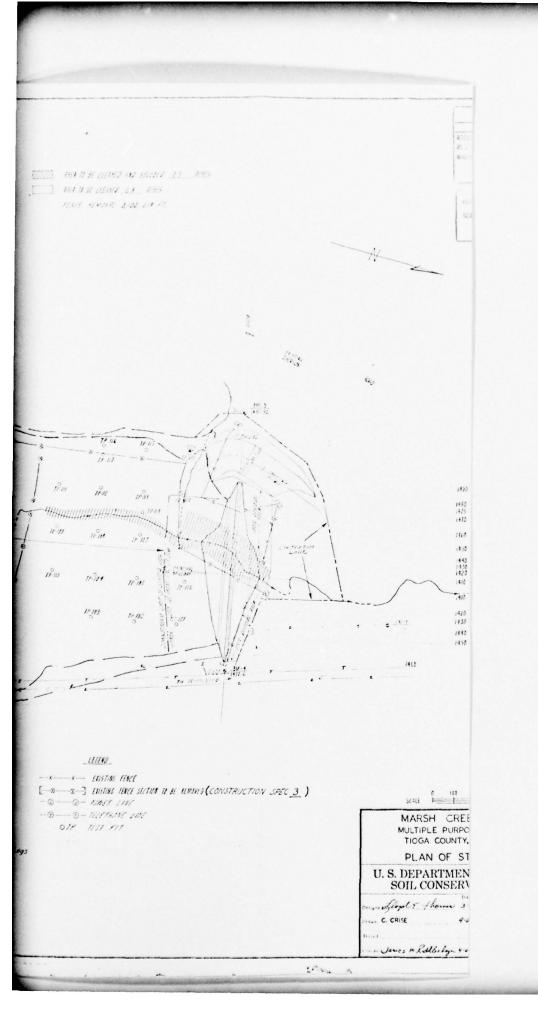
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01P 113

See Sheets 12.13 and 14 for Logs of Drill Holes and Test Arts



EEK WATERSHED
POSE DAM PA-601
M. PENNSYLVANIA
STORAGE AREA
NT OF AGRICULTURE
RVATION SERVICE

14 PA-601-P

G. M. Recoured.

PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM

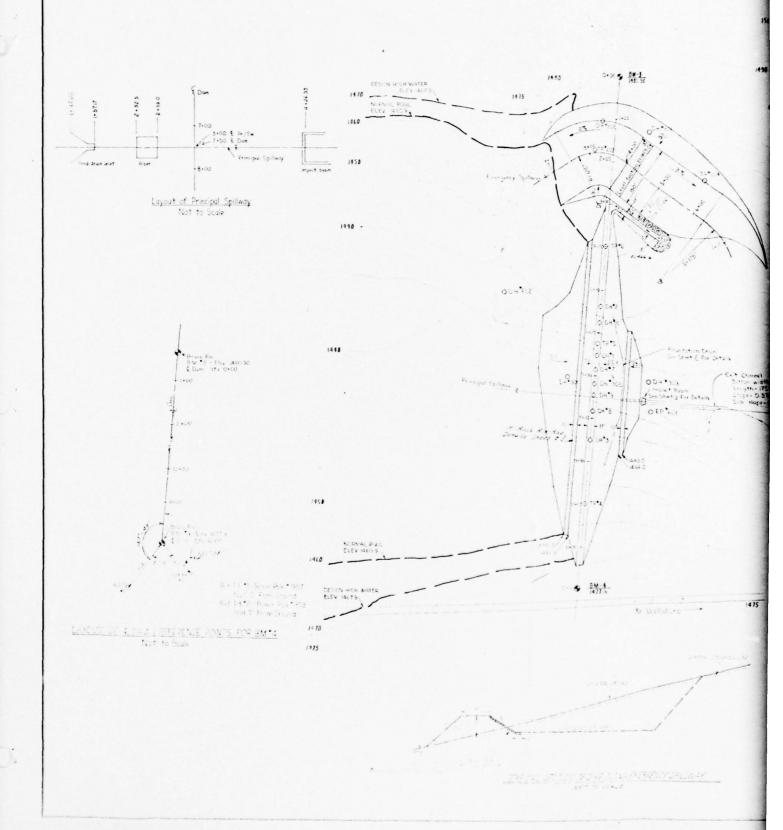
LAKE NESSMUK DAM

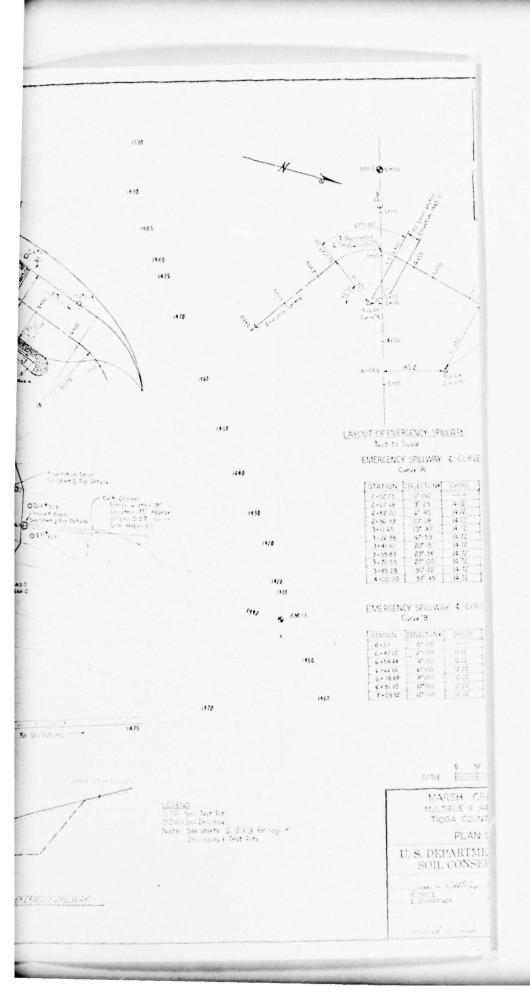
PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

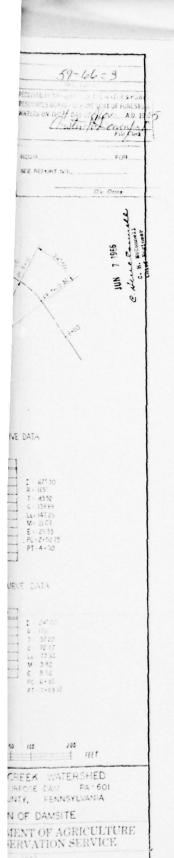
PLAN AND TYPICAL SECTION

AUGUST 1979

PLATE 2







3 PA-601-P

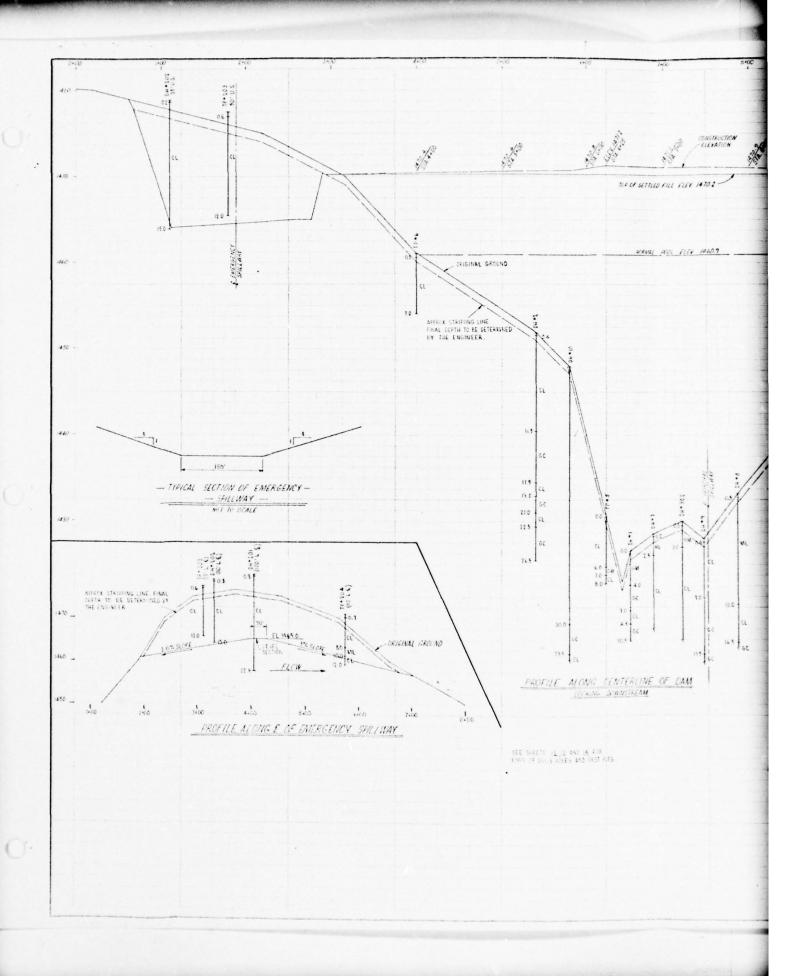
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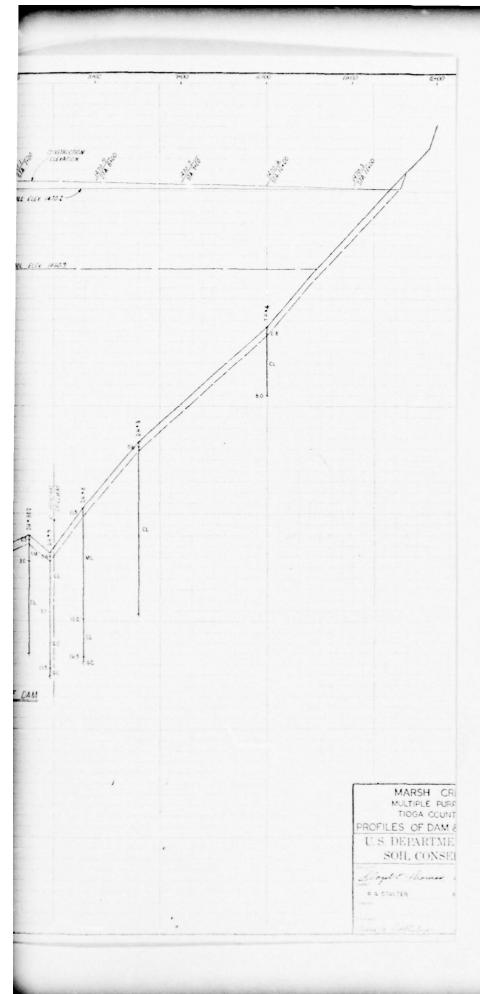
LAKE NESSMUK DAM

PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

ALIGNMENT PLAN

AUGUST 1979







EEK WATERSHED

OSE DAM PA-601

IY. PENNSYLVANIA

LEMERGENCY SPILLWAY

NT OF AGRICULTURE

RVATION SERVICE

4 PA-601-P

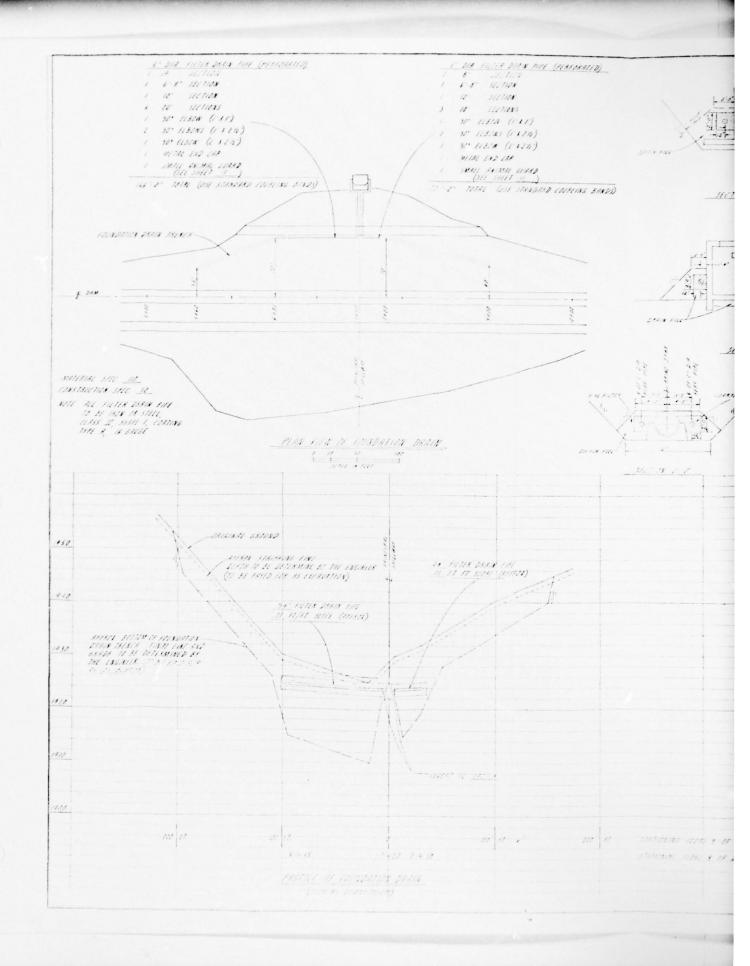
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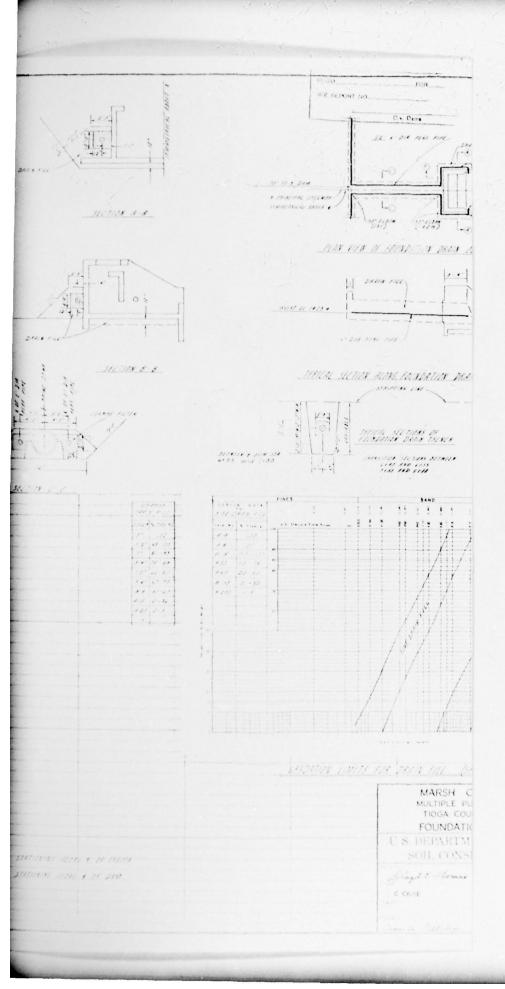
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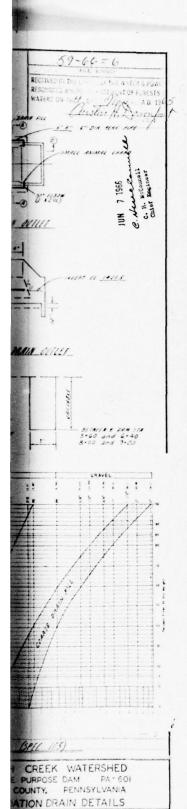
LAKE NESSMUK DAM

PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

PROFILES







PMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NSERVATION SERVICE

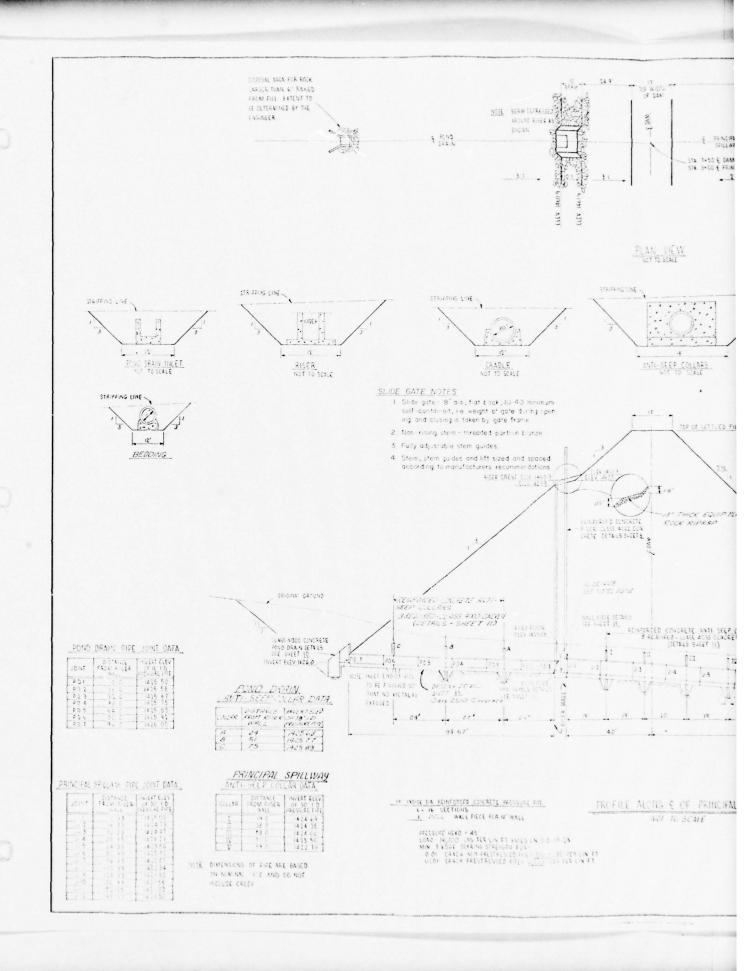
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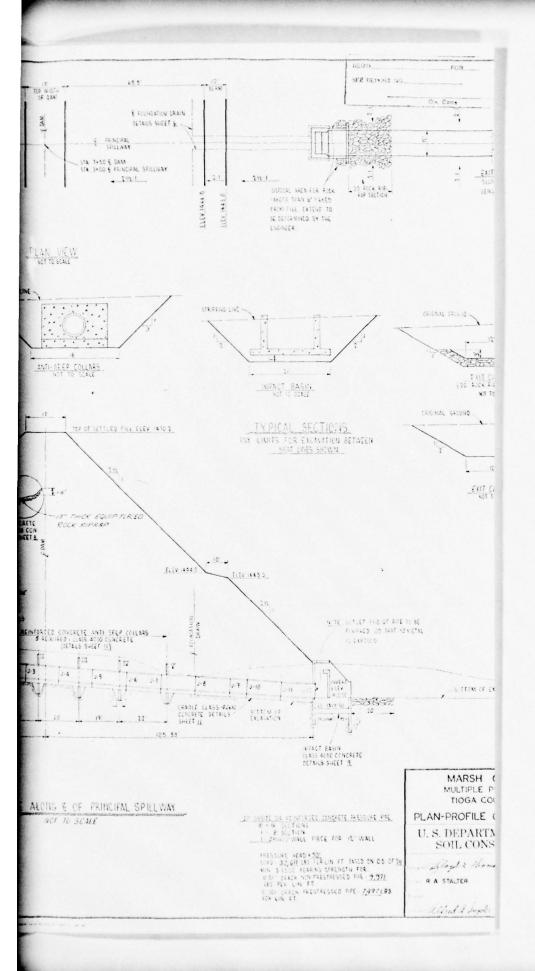
LAKE NESSMUK DAM

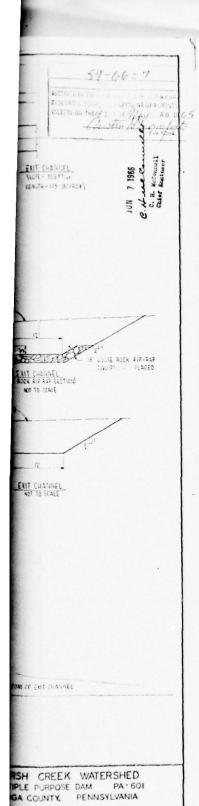
PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

DRAIN PLAN

AUGUST 1979







PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM

LAKE NESSMUK DAM

PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

MAIN SPILLWAY AND OUTLET WORKS

AUGUST 1979

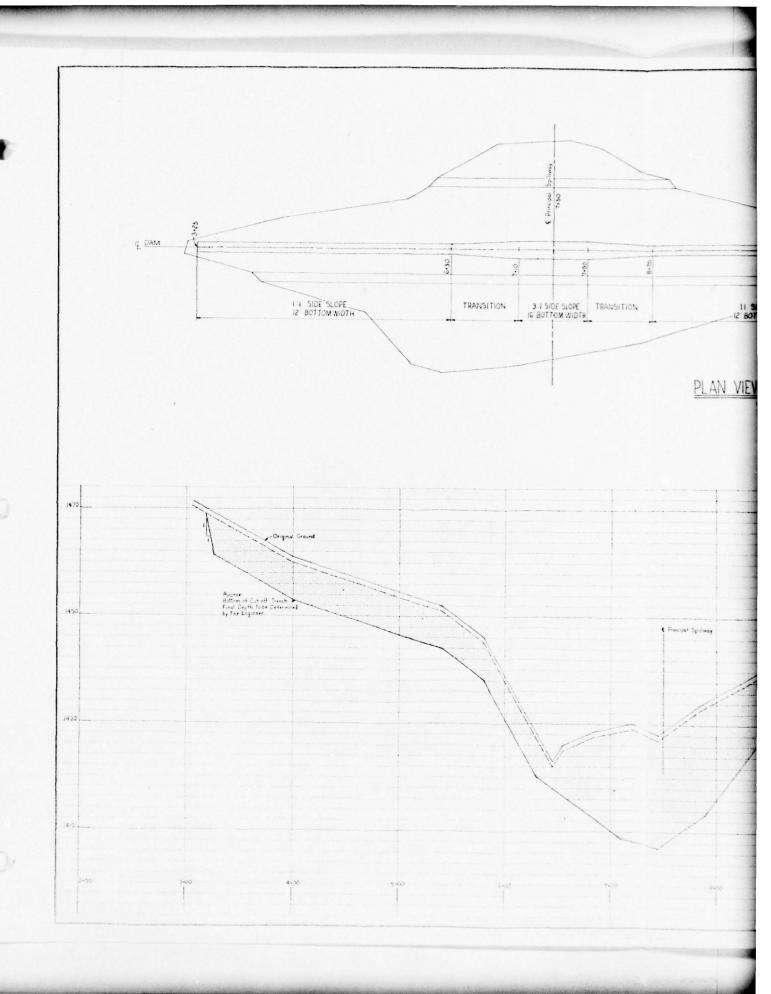
PLATE 6

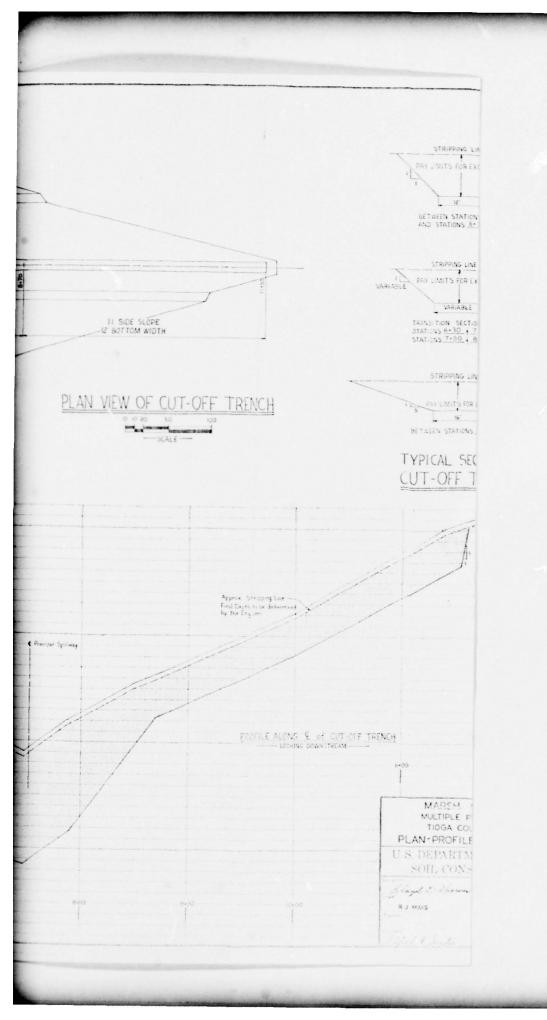
PA-601-P 505-3130 (9-64)

FILE OF PRINCIPAL SPILLWAY
ARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
CONSERVATION SERVICE

thomas son

8-65





59-66=5 Report of the state of the server had been server had REGO.
SEE FEILING IND.
21 6:30
III:55 1 7.90 IONS ENCH REEM WATERSHED
ROSE DAM PA 601
TY, PENNSYLVANIA OF CUT-OFF TRENCH INT OF AGRICULTURE RVATION SERVICE 2-65 8-65

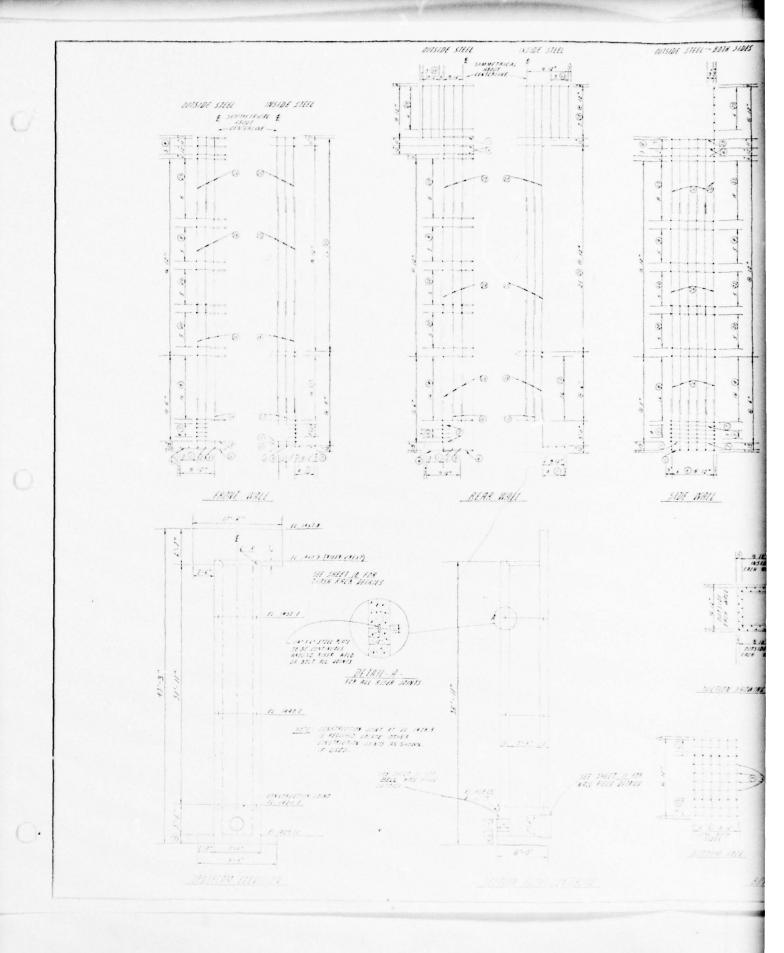
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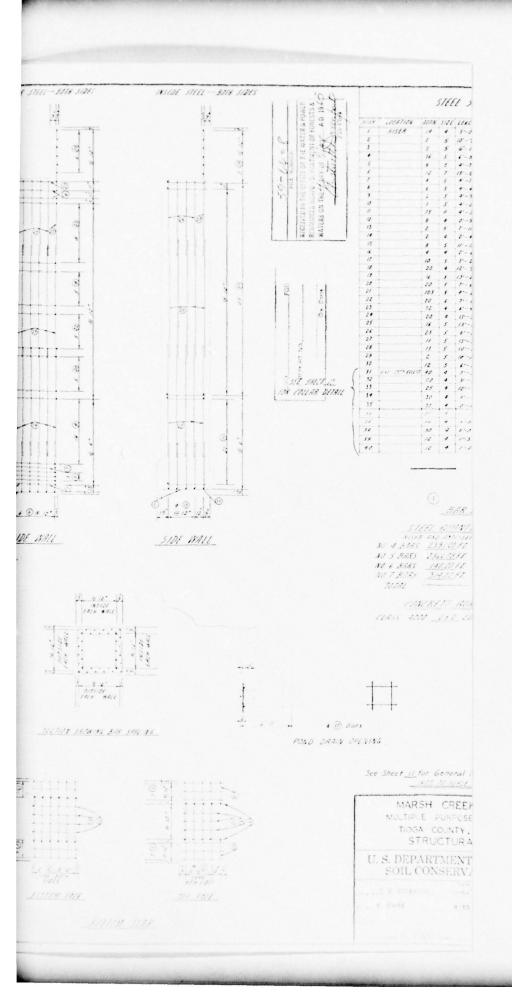
LAKE NESSMUK DAM

PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

CUT-OFF TRENCH

AUGUST 1979







PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM

LAKE NESSMUK DAM

PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

MAIN SPILLWAY RISER

AUGUST 1979

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN MORRIS BRANCH MARSH CREEK, TIOGA COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

LAKE NESSMUK DAM

NDI ID No. PA-00032 DER ID No. 59-66 SCS ID No. PA-601

PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT

NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM

AUGUST 1979

APPENDIX A

CHECKLIST - ENGINEERING DATA

CHECKLIST

0

ENGINEERING DATA

NDI ID NO.: PA - 00 169 DER ID NO.: 59-66 SCE JD.NO. PA - 601.

NAME OF DAM: LAKE NESSMUK

8

Sheet 1 of 4

DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND OPERATION

PHASE I

NO RATINGS AVAILABLE SCS FILES REMARKS 4 Built 1967-1968 H AVAILABLE in SEE PLATE See PLATE Ser Prate TYPICAL SECTIONS OF DAM CONSTRUCTION HISTORY REGIONAL VICINITY MAP TEM OUTLETS:
Plan
Details
Constraints
Discharge Ratings AS-BUILT DRAWINGS

ENGINEERING DATA

0

TTEM	REMARKS
RAINFALL/RESERVOIR RECORDS	None
DESIGN REPORTS	AVAILMBLE IN SCS FILES
GEOLOGY REPORTS	AVAILABLE IN SCS FILES
DESIGN COMPUTATIONS: Hydrology and Hydraulics Dam Stabillty Seepage Studies	ALL EXCEPT SCEPHGE STUDY AVAILABLE. See END OF APPENDIX A AND APPENDIX C.
MATERIALS INVESTIGATIONS: Boring Records Laboratory Field	ALL AVAILABLE IN SCS FILES
POSTCONSTRUCTION SURVEYS OF DAM	Nows

ENGINEERING DATA

0

ITEM	REMARKS
BORROW SOURCES	FROM SITE AS NOTED ON DAAMINGS
MONITORING SYSTEMS	None
MODIFICATIONS	None
HIGH POOL RECORDS	No FORMAL RECORDS. HIGHEST POOL PEPORTED: AGNES 8" below Aux. Spinumay CREST, TRAIN SOM
POSTCONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING STUDIES AND REPORTS	None
PRIOR ACCIDENTS OR FAILURE OF DAM: Description Reports	None

ENGINEERING DATA

ITEM	REMARKS
MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION RECORDS	Nove
SPILLWAY: Plan Sections Details	See PLATE 6 AND 8
OPERATING EQUIPMENT: Plans Details	AVAILABLE IN SCS FILES
PREVIOUS INSPECTIONS Dates Deficiencies	1970 - GATE LEAKING 1971 - NO deficiencies 1972 - Debais AT AIRIN Spirluny 1974 - No deficiencies 1977 - No deficiencies 1978 - No deficiencies, Notes CHIE 1978 - NO deficiencies, Notes CHIE

Maximum Section

SUMMARY - SLOPE STABILITY ANALYSIS

State PENNSYL I	ANIA	Project MARSH	CREEK	SITE #PA GOI
nata 12-11-64				G.N.G.

Method of Analysis SWEDISH CIRCLE

Location of Material		_						Stel	95% C	Stal
Sample No.							95h	11066	65 H	1067
7 d								144		23.6
7 m								28.0	L	2/.5
7 5								34.0		27.0
7 b								71.5		14.5
Condition	Opt.	Sat.	Opt.	Sat.	Opt.	Sat.	Opt.	Sat.	Opt.	Sat.
ф								22.50		160
Tan ᠹ								24/4		2287
K										
С								350		900

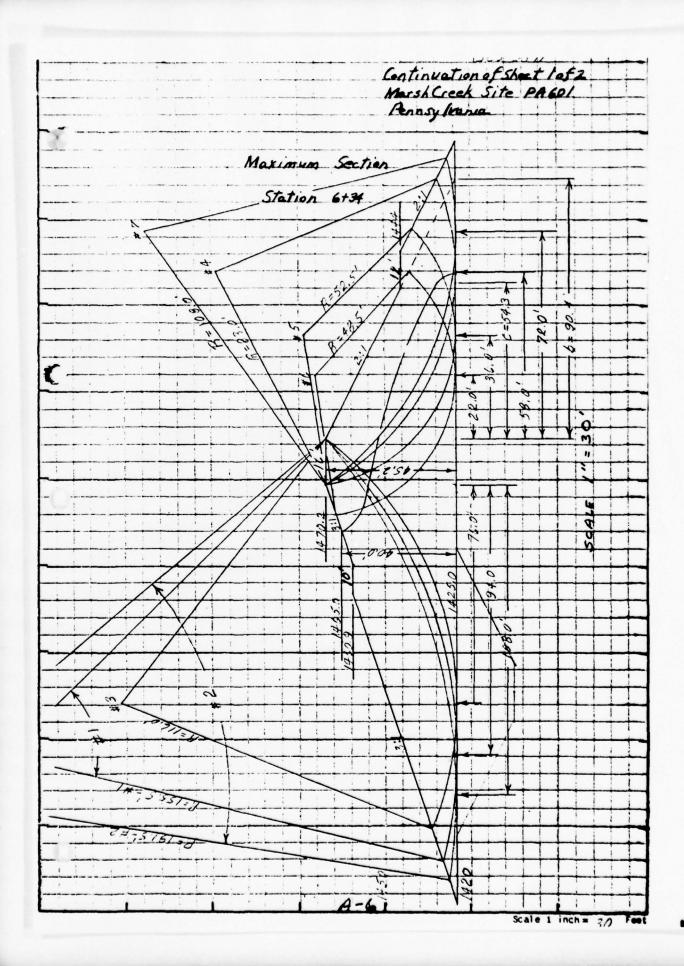
		UPSTREAM SLOPE"	
Trial	Slope	Conditions	Fs
1	3:/	Full draw down-10 bermeeler. 1460.9-Arc cut	
		from opp. shill thru Emb. (22.5°-350) on la	145
IA	3:1	Same as #/axcont Emb (16.0°-900) only	2.8
2	3:1	Fulldmudown-10 bermeelev. 14/09 Arc cut	
		fram app shildr thru Emb (22.50-350) only	450
3	3:1	Fulldmudown-10 berma elev. 14609 Arc cut	
		from app shildr thru Emb (22.5°-250) only	156
		//	1

		DOWNSTREAM SLOPE	
Trial	Slope	Conditions	FS
4	2:1	Draine 4 = 0.6 - No berm - Arc cut from app. shill	
		thru. Emb (225-350) or/u	1.32
44	2:1	Same as # dexcept Emb (160-900) only	1.19
18	2:1	Same as #4 except 12 herm geler. 1444	150
5	2:1	Draw & 46=06- No herm -Arccut	
		From aga shide thru Emb(22.54-350) only	147
6	2:1	Draine 95-06 - Noherm-Arccut framos shills	
		thru Emb (22.50-350) only	4.00
Z	2:1	Drain & 4 = 0.6 - 12 herm & clay 1444 - Arc	
		cut from app. shide thruemb of	
		(22,5°-350) only	1.54
		A - 5	

To be used to report to field offices data used for slope stability analyses and the results of the analyses. The right side of the form will be used for a sketch of the embankment on which the analyses have been made.

C

GPO: 1999 0 ---



SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN MORRIS BRANCH MARSH CREEK, TIOGA COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

LAKE NESSMUK DAM

NDI ID No. PA-00032 DER ID No. 59-66 SCS ID No. PA-601

PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT

NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM

AUGUST 1979

APPENDIX B

CHECKLIST - VISUAL INSPECTION

CHECKLIST

8

VISUAL INSPECTION

PHASE I

SCS ID. NO: PA-601	Date(s) Inspection: 26\$27 July 1979 weather: Hazy-see briow Temperature: 757 Soil: Very moist - inspection interpublica by Thurses Shower	Type of Dam: Zower Erking Hazard Category: HIGH	NDI ID No.: PA - 00/69 DER ID No.: 59-66	Name of Dam: LAKE NESSMUK County: TIOSH State: PENNISYLYANIA
Pool Elevation at Time of Inspection: msl/Tailwater at Time of Inspection: msl	SCS ID. NO: PA-601			TID No.: PA - 00169 DER ID No.: S9-66 Red Dem: Zone Erikhere Hazard Category: High Re(s) Inspection: 26\$27 July 1979 Weather: Hazy-see briew Temperature: 757 Soil: Very Moist - Magretion interrupted by Thurber Shower

Inspection Personnel:

E. JON GRINDALL (PFC) HOWARD RUTLEDGE (SCS) D. EDERSOLE (GFCC) DAN O'NEILL (PFC) JOHN ZAGINAYLO (SCS) RON WOODHEAD (BORONCH) D. WOLF (GFCC)

A. WHITMAN (GFCC) Recorder

EMBANKMENT

8

Sheet 1 of 2

VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	SURFACE CRACKS	UNUSUAL MOVEMENT OR CRACKING AT OR BEYOND THE TOE	SLOUGHING OR EROSION: Embankment Slopes Abutment Slopes by mowning the state of the	CREST ALIGNMENT: Vertical Horizontal Hospech	RIPRAP FAILURES CONDITION APPROX Above
OBSERVATIONS			Minor SCALPING OF GRASS CONFR, PROBABLY by MOWING, NO EXCESSOR EVICENT	VERTICAL - SEE SURVEY SHEETS FOLLOWING INSPECTION FORMS HORIZONTAL - NO DEFICIENCIES	Riprap in GOOD CONDITION, IT EXTENDS APPROFILITIELY 2,8 FEET
REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS					SOME ARENS ON THE UPSTREAM SLOPE RIPRAP ARE POORLY CAADED, BUT NOT SERIOUSLY.

EMBANKMENT

606-647 5-67 Tubular Computations

Sheet 2 of 2

VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	OBSERVATIONS	REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS
JUNCTION OF EMBANKMENT WITH: Abutment Spillway Other Features	No dericiancies	
ANY NOTICEABLE SEEPAGE	None observed	
STAFF GAGE AND RECORDER	Nowe AT SITE	
Drains	AT IMPACT BASIN LEFT DRAIN - 0.5 8PM FLOW RIGHT DRAIN - SMALL TRICKLE	
VEGETATION	GRASS - EXCEPT AS NOTED UNDER EROSION - GOOD DOWNSTREAM SCOPE 'S COVERED WITH 2' TO 3' HIGH CROWN VETCH,	HICH GRASS CROWING THEOLEN PIPRAP ON UPSTREAM SLOPE, being CUT on day of inspection, CARSS AT dam one newy

OUTLET WORKS
Sheet 1 of 1

VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	OBSERVATIONS	REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS
CRACKING AND SPALLING OF CONCRETE SURFACES IN OUTLET CONDUIT	Joint SEPARATIONS 14" TO 12" Except 2 At Dewnstream End	No EVIDENCE OF CALITATION AT RISER.
INTAKE STRUCTURE	Submerace	
OUTLET STRUCTURE	Impact bacing - 6000 consition.	
OUTLET CHANNEL	Riprap-GOOD CONDITION MINOR BRUSH ON CHANNEL BANKS.	BRUSH NOT A OBFICITION. BOROUGH MNINTENANCE PERCONNEL INDICATED IT
EMERGENCY GATE		THE GATE DOES NOT SEAT CORPECTLY, WHICH RESULTS IN LEAKAGE AND POSSIBLE STOWN POOL ORANDOWN,
	FOR A ELE DUT OLIO NOT WISH	WEDGES.

MAIN BRILLWAY Sheet 1 of 1

VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	OBSERVATIONS	REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS
CONCRETE WEIR	No dericiencie	
APPROACH CHANNEL	Reservoir	
DISCHARGE CHANNEL	CONDUIT: SEE OUTLET WORKS	
BRIDGE AND PIERS	Nove	TRASH DEVICE AT

Sheet 1 of 1

VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	OBSERVATIONS	REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS
CONCRETE SILL	Nove - GRACCILL	Good Condition
APPROACH CHANNEL	GRASCEL SLOPE TO RESERVOIR	Good Condition
DISCHARGE CHANNEL	RINOR BRUSH IN RIPARD AT RIGHT	No deficiencies
BRIDGE AND PIERS	Nove	
GATES AND OPERATION EQUIPMENT	None	

INSTRUMENTATION
Sheet 1 of 1

VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	OBSERVATIONS	REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS
MONUMENTATION/SURVEYS	Nove AT SITE	
OBSERVATION WELLS	Nove AT Sine	
WEIRS	Nowe AT SITE	
PEZOMETERS	NONE AT SITE	
OTHER	N/A	

DOWNSTREAM CHANNEL

Sheet 1 of 1

VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	OBSERVATIONS	REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS
CONDITION: Obstructions Debris Other	No obstructions or significant debris. Minor brush on brush.	BRUSH CUTTING IN
SLOPES	STEEP STIETH LAINKS GENTLE SLOPE OVERBANKS	
APROXIMATE NUMBER OF HOMES AND POPULATION	GREHTLY IN EXCESS OF SO DUELLINGS ALSO COMMERCIAL DISTRICT	STREAM FLOWS THROUGH BOROVGH OF WELLSBOPO IN SMALL VERTICAL-SIOG CHANNEL

RESERVOIR AND WATERSHED

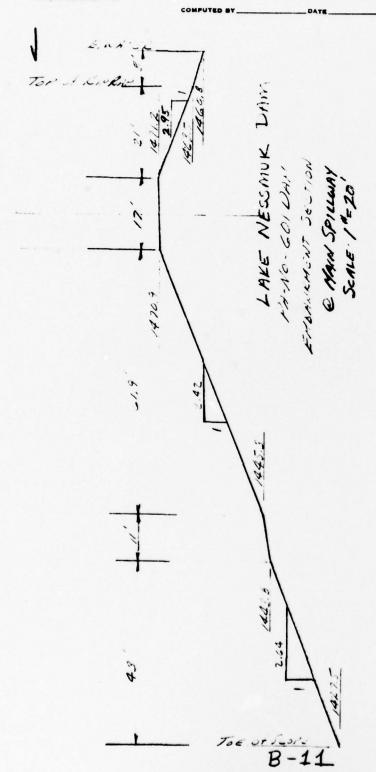
Sheet 1 of 1

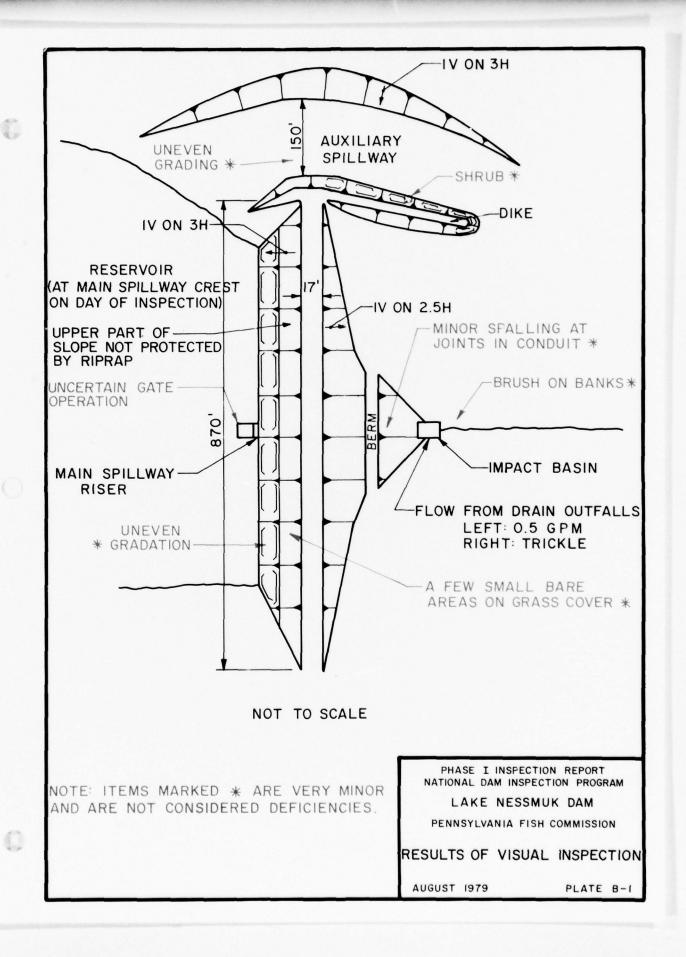
VISUAL EXAMINATION OF	OBSERVATIONS	REMARKS OR RECOMMENDATIONS
SLOPES	GENTLE TO STEEP	
SEDIMENTATION	No observer or Reporter problems	
WATERSHED DESCRIPTION	ROLLING HILLS EITHER GOODEC OR FARM FIELDS. VERY MICHOR	

SUBJECT PH SOI DAM GANNETT FLEMING CORDDRY AND CARPENTER, INC. HARRISBURG, PA. COMPUTED BY_ END of EMBOURNER 11+70 Survered (7-25-74) 14705 1470.6 1470.8 1471.0 1471.0 1471.1 147/4 1471.6 1471.3 LOOK, NG 1471.0 1470.9 1470.8 1470.8 1470.5 14705 1470.3 1465,5 1465.3 B-10

GANNETT FLEMING CORDDRY
AND CARPENTER, INC.

CARPENTER, INC.





SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN MORRIS BRANCH MARSH CREEK, TIOGA COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

LAKE NESSMUK DAM

NDI ID No. PA-00032 DER ID No. 59-66 SCS ID No. PA-601

PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT

NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM

AUGUST 1979

APPENDIX C
HYDROLOGY AND HYDRAULICS

APPENDIX C

HYDROLOGY AND HYDRAULICS

In the recommended Guidelines for Safety Inspection of Dams, the Department of the Army, Office of the Chief of Engineers (OCE), established criteria for rating the capacity of spillways. The recommended Spillway Design Flood (SDF) for the size (small, intermediate, or large) and hazard potential (low, significant, or high) classification of a dam is selected in accordance with the criteria. The SDF for those dams in the high hazard category varies between one-half of the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) and the PMF. If the dam and spillway are not capable of passing the SDF without overtopping failure, the spillway capacity is rated as inadequate. If the dam and spillway are capable of passing one-half of the PMF without overtopping failure, or if the dam is not in the high hazard category, the spillway capacity is not rated as seriously inadequate. A spillway capacity is rated as seriously inadequate if all of the following conditions exist:

- (a) There is a high hazard to loss of life from large flows downstream of the dam.
- (b) Dam failure resulting from overtopping would significantly increase the hazard to loss of life downstream from the dam from that which would exist just before overtopping failure.
- (c) The dam and spillway are not capable of passing one-half of the PMF without overtopping failure.

1/13/							ROGRA PH		1
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							te		-6
			_				RIS CI		
Storm	n Distr	ibution C	urve	<u>B</u>		H	ydrograpl	a Family _	
D.A.	1.63	sc. mi.,	Pt. Rai	nfall	1.2 in	ches,	Aerial Fa	inall 304	inches
R.O.	Conditi	ion II	, R.O.C	Curve No	. 76	, Sto	orm Durat	ion or Freq	. 6 he
-0 .	7.00		77.17		b		-c <u>-//</u>		
To C	ompute	d= 790	Ţ	used	. 6		Revised T	`p =	93
2				Ъ					
3 ₂ =	484 A	, =	848 c.	f. s.	g _n	×Q=	14.800	c.f.s.	
. (- ·		р			-12				
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							$= \frac{4p}{(2t)(t)}$		
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تانند عاد	ن ان م	q ₃	T	c, i, s.	Line	1 2	^Q c	hours	c.f.s
No.	, b	<u>6</u> 2	hours	C. 1, S.	No.	† tp	- <u>c</u> p	nou.s	C.1.5
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2	0.44	.003	.41	44	22		.003	8.59	
ં	X	.013	.82	A2	23		.002	9.00	30
٠.		.041	1.23	607	24	<u> </u>	.00	1 9.41	15
5		.084	1.64	1240	25				
6		.176	2.05	2605	26			2)(45,630	217.76
?		.386	2.46	57/0	27		645((.63)	
ટ	!	.497	2.86	7355	28				
9		.430	327	6360	29		%E= 17	78-17.44	1.376
10		.335	3.68	4960	30			77.77	
11		258	4.09	3820	31				
12		,202	4.50	2990	32				
18		./64	491	2426	33				
14		139	5.32	2060	34				
13		./24	5.73	1830	35				
	10	.100	6.14	1480	36				
177	<u> </u>	.060	6.55	890	37				
18		.033	6.96	490	28				
					1 00				
19		.018	7.37	266	39				

GANNETT FLEMING CORDORY AND CARPENTER, INC. HARRISBURG, PA. FREE BOARD STORM SHEET NO. OF SHEET
FOR LINE NEET MUK
COMPUTED BY HERY DATE CHECKED BY DATE

SCS DATH - FREEBOARD STORM (GHA)

RAIN FALL = 20.8" RUN OFF = 17.44"

Q PEAK INFLOW = 7355 CFS

PMF DATA:

SUSQUE HANNE BASIN

DISTRIBUTION

6HR 11896 INDEX RAINFALL = 12 HR 127 22.15"

X4 HR 136

48 HR 142 ADJUSTMENT = 99% = 72 HR 145

(FROM BYDROMET 40)

(FROM HYDROMET 40)

REVISED INDEX = 22.15 x.99x.8 = 17.54"

HOP BROOK FROM

TOTAL GHR RAINFALL 1.18 x 17.54 = 20.70"

AS SMALL (e.g. 1.63 mi2) WHIEKSHOUS

THE CHLY SUBSTIVE TO INTENSE (e.g. PEAR)

RAINFALL PERIOLD, THE SCS G-HR RAINFALL

IS SUFFICIENTLY CLOSE TO THE PMF.

SINCE THE INITIAL ABSTRACTION OF

1.0" IS A SUMED TO BAVE BEEN ABSORDED

LY THE EMILY PHAT OF THE PHIF; FOIL

THE G MA PLAK! RUNOFF = 20.70" - 6 x.05 INCHES/HOW

ZO.40" This is slightly GRENIER THAN

THE SCS RUNOFF OF 17.4". However,

THE PETIL FLOW IS CONSERVATIVE BECAUSE

IME UNIT HYDROGRAPH IS CONSERVATIVE.

U. S. DEPARTMENT TO A AGRICULTURE SOIL CONSERT ATION SERVICE

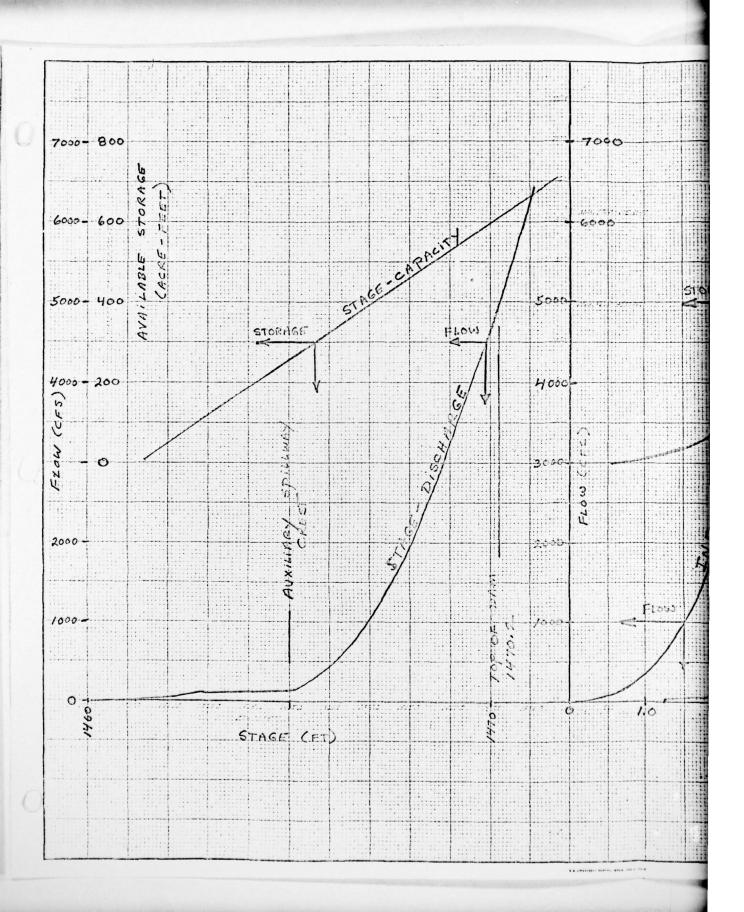
COS-CAT S-ST
T-JULIE COMPLETEDING

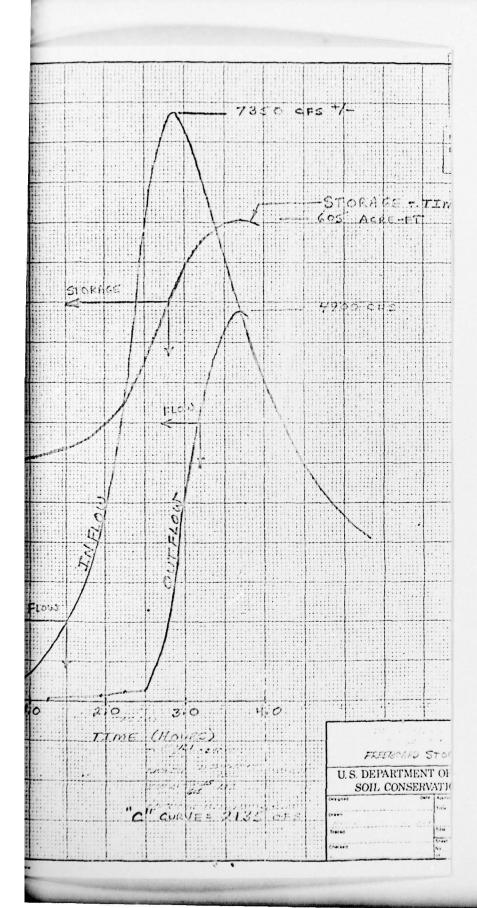
MARSON CREEK WIS - PA-60

				TIONS							
Stage	Ho	H 35	Qw = 36.7511 ⁷ 2	Hp (@surles) =14250)	412	PP = 21.07 H /2	g E5-124 Sh 3/7 L=200	Нр	de	₹de =2de	b+.
1460.9	0	0	0	35.9	5.99	126				 	
1461.5	0.6	0.46	18				-		1		!
1462.0	1.1	1.16	45	37.0	6.08	128			- 		
1462.5	1.6	2.04	79							i	
1463.0	2.1	3.04	118	38.0	6.16	130			. T		•
1463.5	2.6	4.19	162	38.5	6.20	131				:	
1465.0				40.0	6.32		0	0	0	0	150
1466.8				41.8	6.46	136	5	1.76	0.92	1.84	
1467.7				42.7	6.53	138	10	2.65	1.46	2.92	152
1468.4				43.4	6.58	139	15	3.39	1.91		153
1469.0				44.0	6.63	140	20	4.04	2.32	4.64	154
1470.1				45.1	6.72	142	30	5.14	3.04	6.08	
1471.1				46.1	6.79	143	40	6.14	3.70	7.40	
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C J. Nocomoli PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM ROUTING LAKE NESSMUK DAM AGRICULTURE N SERVICE PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION FREEBOARD STORM ROUTING

AUGUST 1979

PLATE C-2

PA-601

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN MORRIS BRANCH MARSH CREEK, TIOGA COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

LAKE NESSMUK DAM

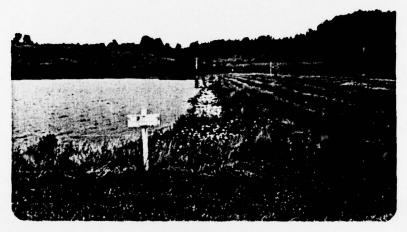
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PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION
PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT
NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM

AUGUST 1979

APPENDIX D
PHOTOGRAPHS

LAKE NESSMUK DAM



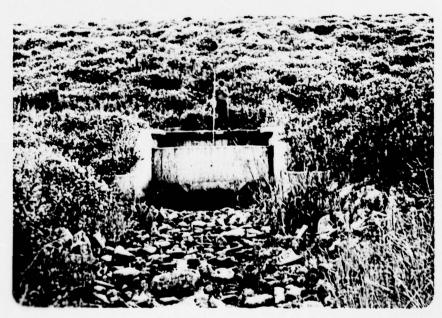
A. Upstream Slope



B. Downstream Slope



C. Main Spillway



D. Impact Basin



E. Auxiliary Spillway Approach Channel



F. Auxiliary Spillway Exit Channel

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BASIN MORRIS BRANCH MARSH CREEK, TIOGA COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA

LAKE NESSMUK DAM

NDI ID No. PA-00032 DER ID No. 59-66 SCS ID No. PA-601

PENNSYLVANIA FISH COMMISSION

PHASE I INSPECTION REPORT

NATIONAL DAM INSPECTION PROGRAM

AUGUST 1979

APPENDIX E GEOLOGY

LAKE NESSMUK DAM

APPENDIX E

GEOLOGY

1. General Geology. The damsite and reservoir are located in Tioga County. With the exception of the southwest corner the entire county was glaciated during the Wisconsin glacial advance. Glacial features such as lakes, marshes, moraines, and terraces are almost lacking in the uplands of Tioga County. However, in the valleys, abundant evidence of glaciation has been preserved. Particularly in the valleys of the Tioga and Cowanesque Rivers and along Marsh Creek, Crooked Creek, and Upper Pine Creek. Drainage from glacial lakes in these valleys resulted in what is called the Pine Creek Gorge.

The rock formations exposed in Tioga County range in age from the Chemung Formation of Upper Devonian age to the Allegheny Formation of Pennsylvanian age. The oldest rocks crop out in three broad anticlinal folds in the north, central, and southern parts of the county. The youngest rocks are exposed in the Blossburg Coal Basin. Most of the plateau remnants are capped by the Pocono Formation, with smaller remnants of the Pottsville Formation. The intermediate slopes are underlain by the Cattaraugus and Oswayo Formations.

The geologic structure of Tioga County displays a series of well-defined folds with marked continuity trending east-northeast. Evidence of doming is observed on the Sabinsville, Wellsboro, and Towanda anticlines. In all the domed areas the south limb is appreciably steeper than the north limb. The regional plunge of the folds is to the southwest and generally they decrease in amplitude with distance from the Allegheny Front. Surface evidence of faulting is observed on the south flank of the Sabinsville Anticline in Tioga Township, on the Wellsboro Anticline southeast of Wellsboro, and on the Towanda Anticline in Union Township. Subsurface faults have been noted during drilling some deep wells in the area.

2. Site Geology. The dam is founded on Chemung Siltstone of Devonian age. Glacial till overlies the siltstone and is essentially a sandy, gravelly clay. Alluvial and colluvial deposits were found in the floodplain near the centerline. The Chemung formation is composed of fine-grained sandstone and siltstone with interbedded shale. Bedding is well developed. This formation is moderately to slightly resistant to weathering. Gentle slopes of medium relief in this area are typical of the dissected plateau in which this dam is located.

The dam is founded on overburden. Excerpts from the design analysis concerning the foundation are presented hereafter.

Form SCS-376C Sheet ___ of ___ For IA-Service Use Only

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DETAILED GEOLOGIC INVESTIGATION OF DAM SITES

State Penna	County	Tio	7a	_ Watershed	Marsh Cr	eek	Subwetershed	Morris		
Site number Pi-601 s	ite group	1	Structure class	C	investigated by	90	Sugnature and	God?	Date Oct.	22,196

INTERPRETATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

High permeability of the foundation is the major problem anticipated in the design and construction of this multipurpose development. The coefficients of permeability determined by carefully controlled field tests are extremely high for till of the character seen in the samples. However, sample recovery was generally less than 70% of the drive length and often much less. It is assumed that lenses of clean gravel exist and were either pushed aside by the sampler or else fell from the sampler on withdrawal.

These coefficients are assumed to represent horizontal, or nearly horizontal, permeabilities along piping planes within the till. If this is true, a direct route for water from the pool to these planes exists through the deep pervious alluvium in the pool area. In other words, vertical permeability of the till has little influence on seepage losses because the pervious zones of till directly contact the pervious alluvium. Further piping would develop from this rapid seepage beneath the proposed structure unless a positive cutoff is installed. Filter drains could control piping, but not water loss.

Consideration should be given to differential consolidation between areas of deep alluvium and areas of shallow alluvium within the lower foundation and principal spillway locations.

No rock excavation will be encountered any place on the site, but wet excavation should be expected if a deep cutoff is used.

Borrow material is adequately available from the pool area within 900 feet of the centerline and from the emergency spillway excavation. This soil will be stable and impervious when compacted in the fill.

